

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Takashi NAKANO et al. : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**  
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2004-0770A  
Filed May 20, 2004 :  
SHAFT SEAL MECHANISM

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows:

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975